

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7412
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
USNMR SHAPE
USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 7424

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, GR, TU, CY, US
SUBJECT: FOREIGN RELATIONS: GREEK PRESS REPORTS ON GOC DECISIONS

REF: ATHENS 7374 (NOTAL)

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. THE AUGUST 25 ATHENS PRESS REPORTED
EXTENSIVELY NEWS DISPATCHES FROM NICOSIA ON THE JOINT MEETING
YESTERDAY OF THE CYPRIOT COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND NATIONAL
COUNCIL. THE ACCOUNTS WERE IN CONFLICT REGARDING THE CONCLUSIONS
REACHED. HOWEVER, SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS REPORTED THE DECISION WAS
MADE TO TAKE THE CYPRUS PROBLEM TO THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL AND
ALSO TO RAISE THE ISSUE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NOTING THERE
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WERE DIFFERENCES OF VIEW ON THIS WITH ATHENS. THE SAME DISPATCHES
REPORTED THAT STATE DEPARTMENT COUNSELOR NIMETZ WOULD TRAVEL TO
NICOSIA, ATHENS AND ANKARA AS PRESIDENT CARTER'S EMISSARY TO
HOLD CONSULTATIONS ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM AND THAT ARRANGEMENTS
WITH RESPECT TO ACTION IN THE UNSC AND THE UNGA WOULD BE MADE
FOLLOWING HIS VISIT.

2. LEFTIST OPPOSITION PROINI ELEFTHEROTYPIA, AFTERNOON
ELEFTHEROTYPIA AND TA NEA ALL CLAIMED THAT THE NICOSIA MEETING
HAD DECIDED "UNANIMOUSLY" THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS SHOULD
APPEAL TO THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL TO ASK FOR MEASURES
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PAST UN RESOLUTIONS ON CYPRUS. THEY
ADDED THAT THE ISSUE WOULD ALSO BE INSCRIBED ON THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY AGENDA AS WELL.

3. PRO-GOVERNMENT VRADYNI, ON THE OTHER HAND, NOTED IN A
DESCRIPTIVE ACCOUNT THAT THE "POLITICAL SITUATION IN NICOSIA
APPEARS VERY CONFUSED, WITH BASIC DISAGREEMENTS ON THE HANDLING
OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM". VRADYNI SAID THAT THE MEETING OF THE
TWO COUNCILS WAS "STORMY", CENTERING ON WHETHER THE FEBRUARY 1977
MAKARIOS-DENKTASH AGREEMENT CONTINUES TO BE BINDING. THE ISSUE
SPLIT THE MEETING IN TWO, SAID VRADYNI, WITH COMMUNIST AKEL
URGING THE RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AND APPLICATION OF
THE MAKARIOS-DENKTASH AGREEMENT. (CLERIDES AND TASSOS
PAPADOPOULOS WERE ALSO SAID TO HAVE FAVORED THIS APPROACH.)
EDEK LEADER LYSSARIDES WAS SAID TO BE AMONG THOSE WHO OPPOSED
RESUMPTION OF THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AND ARGUED IN FAVOR OF
A NEW APPEAL TO THE UNITED NATIONS. ULTRA-CONSERVATIVE ESTIA,
WHICH IS USUALLY WELL-INFORMED ON CYPRUS DEVELOPMENTS, REPORTED
THAT NO DECISION WAS TAKEN AT THE CABINET AND NATIONAL
COUNCIL MEETING.

4. PROINI ELEFTHEROTYPIA HEADLINED ITS NICOSIA DATELINED STORY
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"DIFFERENCES WITH ATHENS OVER THE HANDLING OF THE CYPRUS
PROBLEM" AND WROTE THAT PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU HAD LET IT BE UNDER-
STOOD THAT THERE WERE DIFFERENCES ON THIS SCORE BETWEEN ATHENS
AND NICOSIA, BUT THEY WERE "INSIGNIFICANT." ELEFTHEROTYPIA
ENLARGED SOMEWHAT ON THIS THEME, SAYING THAT "IT IS KNOWN THAT
PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU BRIEFED THE TWO BODIES ABOUT RESERVATIONS
ON THE GREEK SIDE REGARDING THE WISDOM OF THIS APPEAL TO THE
SECURITY COUNCIL." PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU IN THIS ACCOUNT IS SAID
TO HAVE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT IF HIS GOVERNMENT DECIDED THAT
THIS WAS THE COURSE TO FOLLOW, THEN ATHENS WOULD GIVE ITS FULL
SUPPORT "REGARDLESS OF ANY RESERVATIONS". END UNCLASSIFIED.

5. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL
AFFAIRS TZOUNIS CALLED THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR SINCE THE ABOVE
WAS DRAFTED TO INFORM US THAT ACCORDING TO INFORMATION THE GOG
HAD FROM NICOSIA, THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL HAD DECIDED THAT NO ACTION REGARDING
RECOURSE TO THE UNSC WOULD BE TAKEN BEFORE OCTOBER. IF THERE IS
NO MOVEMENT ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM BY THEN, THE GOC WILL PROCEED
TO RAISE THE MATTER IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. TZOUNIS SAID MOST
PARTICIPANTS AT THE AUGUST 24 MEETING HAD WANTED TO GO TO THE
SECURITY COUNCIL NOW BUT PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU PREVAILED IN HIS

INSISTENCE THAT THIS BE DELAYED TO PERMIT SOME TIME FOR OTHER
DEVELOPMENTS (PRESUMABLY IN LINE WITH THE UNDERSTANDING HE HAD
REACHED WITH THE GOG).
MCCLOSKEY

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